

**PLUMBERS' EXAMINING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: August 8, 2016

Meeting Location: Central Conference Room, State of Maine - Gardiner Annex, Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine

Time Meeting Began: 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call of Officers:

Members present:

Percy Brown, Jr., Chairman

William Longley, Jr.

Lawrence Kent

Aaron Ford

Members Absent:

Lawrence Dempsey

Staff Present:

Catherine Carroll, Board Administrator

Dana Tuttle, Senior Inspector

Amanda Sabins, Board Clerk

Donna Fairfield, Electricians' Examining Board Clerk

AAG Present:

Christopher Mann

Call to Order and Welcome

Percy Brown, Jr. called the Plumbers' Examining Board to order.

Percy Brown, Jr. asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. Catherine Carroll requested postponing the hearing for today as the licensee has signed a consent agreement.

Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2016 meeting.

Motion: William Longley, Jr.

Second: Aaron Ford

Unanimous

New Business:

2015-PLU-11788 – Brian Johnson

The Board reviewed the consent agreement signed by Brian Johnson. The licensee has agreed to pay a fine totaling \$4,000 for all violations. Percy Brown, Jr. asked for discussion and a motion to the accept consent agreement.

Motion: William Longley, Jr.

Second: Aaron Ford

Unanimous

Senior Inspector's Report

Dana Tuttle informed the members of his recent participation in IAPMO's "Answers and Analysis Committee Meeting". Among the issues discussed were well drillers, pump installers, and geothermal wells in which the UPC addresses geothermal wells. Dana has had one complaint about refrigerant and oils going into a well. Percy Brown, Jr. suggested posting information on the Board's website about potential pollutants in geothermal wells.

Dana informed the members about trainee plumbers working without licenses through the Tradesman Source Company, a temporary employment agency.

Dana is preparing for upcoming training sessions for the implementation of the newly adopted 2015 UPC.

Administrator's Report

Catherine Carroll brought to the Board's attention that with training new board clerks has her relying more on Dana Tuttle's expertise and the Board's rules and laws that implement examining and licensing qualifications.

Catherine asked questions regarding the Board's statutory provisions on reciprocity agreements, the value of a journeyman-in-training license, the 10 day stipulation to apply for a trainee license, and the minimum passing score provision. Catherine asked board members and any interested parties in the audience to make sure that Amanda has up-to-date contact information for them. Catherine updated the Board on examination activities with vendor, PROV. Catherine said that there have been little complaints/negative feedback from exam candidates and that communications between the staff and PROV have been good. There are a few questions on the master and journeyman exam that need review. The new exams have been administered since spring. Catherine will let the Board know when a pass/fail report is issued from PROV. Catherine brought to the Board's attention how often exams are being administered. Also, she has been extending candidate's examination expiration dates, within reason, during the transition of exam vendors.

Catherine is working on the 2018-2019 biennium budget. Catherine may be proposing in the next round of fee rules to remove the requirement for examination application fees. Catherine mentioned miscellaneous "housekeeping" changes to the statute that may be included in a department bill this 128th legislative session. She will keep the board posted.

Minutes – Plumbers’ Examining Board August 8, 2016

The next board meeting is October 3rd. Catherine is unsure if a meeting will be necessary, especially if the rulemaking could be completed today.

Chapter 4 Rulemaking

Holly Doherty presented the Chapter 4 Rulemaking- Board Summary and Response to Comments, which basically requests the board to adopt the IPC in place of the UPC.

Percy Brown, Jr. stated that the board and licensed plumbers believe the UPC is more suitable and appropriate for the practices in the State of Maine. Chairman Brown recommended staying with the UPC.

A motion was made to accept the Basis Statement and Response to Comments as written and to adopt the 2015 UPC.

Motion: Aaron Ford

Second: William Longley, Jr.

Unanimous

The next step is to send the adopted rule to the AG’s office for final approval. The Attorney General has a 150 day deadline. The board discussed an appropriate date for the rule to go into effect. An October 1st date was recommended with a January 1, 2017 enforcement date.

Motion: William Longley, Jr.

Second: Lawrence Kent

Unanimous

Other Business

Wayne Jackson, representing the United Technologies Center in Bangor, is seeking approval to get students credit for participation in a CTE plumbing program, similar to the credit community colleges receive under provisions of §3501 2 (B).

Gordon McEwan of IAPMO expressed the value of having a participant from Maine, Dana Tuttle, on the “Answers and Analysis Committee”

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Sabins

Board Clerk